Amendments to and Listing of the Claims

Please cancel claims 15, 17-20, 24-27, 30-31, 33-34 and 37. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. This listing of claims incorporates amendments made by the Examiner's Amendment presented in the Notice of Allowability dated January 14, 2008.

1. (Previously presented) A method for obtaining information from a relational database, comprising the steps of:

formulating a text query to retrieve data from the relational database,

where a first portion of the text query specifies the data to be retrieved

and a second portion of the text query specifies a format for graphing the data;

transmitting the text query to the relational database, wherein the first portion of the text query and the second portion of the text query are formulated in a structured query language (SQL);

executing the text query;

returning data from the relational database in accordance with the text query;

interpreting the text query in accordance with the structured query language (SQL) having keywords and syntax for specifying said format, wherein said keywords are for a SQL data plotting extension and wherein said syntax recognizes said keywords for graphing the data; and

presenting the data in accordance with said format, wherein the graphical image is one of

a line graph, a horizontal bar chart, a vertical bar chart, a pie chart, a scatter plot, a contour plot,

and a wafer map, in accordance with a keyword in the second portion of the text query.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the data is returned as a binary image and

presented as a graph.

4. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein an image representation of

data in ASCII format is returned from the relational database and presented as a graph.

5-6 (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said returning step further

comprises:

    interpreting the first portion of the text query to cause the data to be retrieved;

    creating a dataset for the data;

    incorporating the data into the dataset; and

    constructing a graphical image using the data, in accordance with said format.

8. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 7, wherein said interpreting step further comprises parsing the text query so that the first portion of the text query and the second portion of the text query are interpreted separately.

9. (Previously presented) A method for querying a relational database, comprising the steps of:

specifying the data to be returned from the relational database in a first portion of a text query;

specifying a format for graphing the data in a second portion of the text query; and

executing the text query, thereby returning the data as a graphical image in accordance with said format;

wherein the first portion of the text query and the second portion of the text query are in a structured query language (SQL), wherein the SQL includes keywords and syntax for specifying said format, wherein said keywords are for a SQL data plotting extension and wherein said syntax recognizes said keywords for graphing the data and wherein the graphical image is one of a line graph, a horizontal bar chart, a vertical bar chart, a pie chart, a scatter plot, a contour plot, and a wafer map, in accordance with a keyword in the second portion of the text query.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the graphical image is a binary image.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the graphical image is a representation of the data in ASCII format.

13-40 (Canceled)